SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR RAIN DE-TECTION AND AUTOMATIC OPERATION OF POWER ROOF AND POWER WINDOWS

Abstract

The present invention comprises a system and method for pro-tecting the interior of an automobile having at least a power roof or power windows. The method includes a damaging element de-tection sensor for detecting moisture or airborne particles which may damage the interior of the automobile by contacting the ma-terial when the automobile is left unattended with the automobile power roof or power windows in an open or lowered position. The damaging element detection sensor may be one of a moisture or particle sensor which detects airborne moisture or particles and accordingly automatically operates the power windows or power roof without the intervention of the automobile operator. The sys-tem evaluates whether the moisture or particles are still contact-ing the automobile and may return the power roof or power win-dows to the position they were in prior to the moisture detection. The invention further includes an obstruction sensor for detecting whether an obstruction is impeding the operation of power roof

and power windows, and an occupant sensor for determining whether there is an occupant in the automobile who may manually control the power windows and power roof, and operate the power roof and power windows accordingly.